Cutting down port expenditure

2018. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had announced that he would cut down operations cost of port trusts by 10 per cent annually;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this cutting down of expenditure will assist the ports to improve their business; and

(d) if so, the projected figures for the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) and (b) Efforts are being made to reduce operation costs of ports by 10% at the aggregate level. A campaign has been launched to reduce cost in various areas of port operations and improve the working of major ports. For this, suggestions for reducing cost from different quarters including port users, Chambers of Commerce and Industry have been received to improve operating performance. Various operating areas like consumption of fuel and power, inventory management, overtime, medical expenses, incentives, manpower rationalization, implementation of Electronic Data Interchange etc. are targeted in the attempt to improve performance.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The objective of such cost cutting measures in major ports is to improve their competitiveness and to attract more business. It is not possible to specifically quantify the impact of these measures on total business of the ports. However, the overall traffic projections for the Tenth Five Year Plan (year-wise) of all major ports are given below:—

Year	Traffic Projections (In million Tonnes)
2002-2003	306.050
2003-2004	325.950
2004-2005	350.720
2005-2006	382.850
2006-2007	415.000